

Oklahoma Crop Weather



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Oklahoma Welcomes Statewide Rainfall

Saturating rains poured across the State last Friday and early Saturday. The needed rainfall may have arrived a little too late for the small grain crops, however, five districts in the State received over 3 inches of rainfall. Some hail damage was reported in the Southwest district. Topsoil moisture improved with 72 percent in the short to very short range compared to 96 percent the previous week. Subsoil moisture showed a slight improvement from the previous week with 88 percent in the short to very short range. There were 5.1 days suitable for field work.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	43	29	22	6
Last Week	62	34	4	0
Last Year	29	41	30	0

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	53	35	12	0
Last Week	59	34	7	0
Last Year	12	35	53	0

Small Grains: Despite heavy rainfall last week, small grain crops remained in poor to very poor condition. Although, some wheat stands were at ankle height and very thin, many producers were cutting their wheat for hay. Wheat headed was winding down. Wheat in the soft dough stage increased 18 points from last week to 28 percent. By week's end, oat jointing was at 58 percent complete, up 18 points from last week. Eighty-three percent of the rye was headed with nearly half of it in the soft dough stage.

SMALL GRAIN CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 30, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Wheat -					
This Week	40	36	20	4	0
Last Week	34	38	23	5	0
Last Year	3	12	36	41	8
Rye -					
This Week	38	45	17	0	0
Oats -					
This Week	65	25	10	0	0

Row Crops: The rainfall received across the State came at a great time for row crops. Seedbed preparations were nearing completion for corn and cotton. Soybean and peanut seedbed preparations surpassed the three quarters mark while sorghum preparations reached 56 percent. Corn planted passed the halfway mark at 53 percent complete, an increase of 8 points but 11 points below the five-year average. Corn emergence was at 41 percent by the end of the week. Row crop producers made minimal progress with planting last week before the rains.

Hay: Alfalfa conditions remained in the mostly fair range, while the conditions of other hay remained mostly poor to very poor. Alfalfa height remained shorter than normal, while first cuttings increased 18 points from last week. Other hay first cuttings increased only slightly to 14 percent.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 30, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	13	30	41	15	1
Other Hay	31	41	24	4	0

Pasture and Range: Pasture and range conditions improved slightly from last week due to rainfall received toward the end of last week. Pastures were being sprayed and fertilizer applied earlier in the week in anticipation of weekend precipitation. The rainfall brought well needed moisture to fields and dry ponds. Pastures were greening up.

Livestock: Livestock were in mostly fair to poor condition. Marketings were mostly average. Livestock insect activities were light to none. Death loss of cattle was mostly average. Prices for feeder steers less than 800 pounds averaged \$105.31 per cwt. Prices for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds averaged \$97.13 per cwt. For most of the State, last week's rains helped being to replenish dry livestock ponds. However, although the rains were a good start, more rain was still needed.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending April 30, 2006

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	8	43	36	13	0
Pasture & Range	27	32	31	10	0

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending April 30, 2006									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr Avg.
<i>Wheat -</i>					<i>Soybeans -</i>				
Headed	89	78	77	70	Seedbed Prepared	70	64	61	65
Soft Dough	28	10	14	9	Planted	26	18	18	22
<i>Rye -</i>					<i>Peanuts -</i>				
Jointing	99	60	99	39	Seedbed Prepared	77	52	84	83
Headed	83	35	93	38	Planted	12	4	15	13
Soft Dough	45	17	20	8	<i>Cotton -</i>				
<i>Oats -</i>					Seedbed Prepared	90	74	80	85
Jointing	58	40	74	75	Planted	6	4	1	7
Headed	37	15	21	28	<i>Alfalfa -</i>				
Soft Dough	17	6	N/A	N/A	1 st Cutting	34	16	42	35
<i>Corn -</i>					<i>Other Hay -</i>				
Seedbed Prepared	98	89	98	93	1 st Cutting	14	12	20	14
Planted	53	45	60	64	<i>Watermelon -</i>				
Emerged	41	29	34	34	Planted	45	25	33	40
<i>Sorghum -</i>									
Seedbed Prepared	56	51	55	51					
Planted	13	11	11	12					

Weather for Week Ending April 30, 2006: Temperatures ranged from 26 degrees at Beaver on Wednesday, April 26th, to 96 degrees at Altus on Monday, April 24th. Precipitation averaged 0.23 inches in the Panhandle district to 5.43 inches in the Northeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 56 degrees at Newkirk, Foraker and Tahlequah on Wednesday, April 26th, to 81 degrees at Bessie on Monday, April 24th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending April 30, 2006							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	March 1, 2006 to April 30, 2006		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	72	41	57	0.23	1.42	-2.06	41
West Central	74	46	61	0.88	3.31	-1.69	66
Southwest	76	50	63	1.41	3.86	-1.07	78
North Central	70	46	58	2.62	4.90	-0.74	87
Central	72	50	61	3.01	5.78	-0.99	85
South Central	74	52	63	3.32	8.63	1.32	118
Northeast	68	49	58	5.43	8.55	0.88	111
East Central	71	50	60	3.37	8.09	-0.33	96
Southeast	73	50	62	3.32	10.61	1.64	118

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